

HAMATEURCHATTER

One of the Worlds Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - since 1917

Vol.12 No. 01 - Jan, 2004

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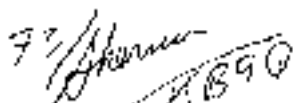
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MRAC FM SIMPLEX CONTEST

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Radio Club FM Simplex Contest will be on February 8, 2004. Rules and entry sheets will be available at this month's meeting. You can also get them at the MRAC WWW site: <http://www.qsl.net/mrac/index.html>. Remember this is an effort to get folks operating without repeaters and learning to enhance and perfect their stations for point to point communications. FM simplex is the Novice bands of the twenty first century and prepares you and your station for more aggressive weak signal communications, on all frequencies, such as SSB and the various digital modes. Just like the Novice bands it gives you a chance to crawl before you try to walk and run!



Sherm KB9Q, (EN52vv)

swanson@ticon.net

HamateurChatter

is the newsletter of MRAC (Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club) which is a not for profit organization for the advancement of amateur radio and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

MRAC Membership dues are \$17.⁰⁰ per year and run on a calendar year starting with January 1.

MRAC general membership meetings are held at:

Redemption Lutheran Church
Fellowship Hall
4057 N. Mayfair Rd.

Milwaukee, WI

Meetings are normally held at 7:00 PM. the last Thursday of the month except for December.

Our Club/VEC Phone no. is

**(262) 332-MRAC or
(262) 332- 6722**

Visit our website at:

<http://www.qsl.net/mrac/>

Correspondence may be addressed to:

M. R. A. C.

P.O. Box 070695

Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695

or

w9rh@arrl.net

MILWAUKEE AREA NETS

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Daily	5:00 - 7:15 AM	3.985	Badger Weather Net
Daily	6:00 PM	1.895	MidEast 160 m. Net
Daily	6-8:00 AM	14.290	Wisconsin/Florida (SSB)
Daily	7:30 AM	144.155	Breakfast RoundTable (SSB)
Daily	6:30 PM	3.645	WI Slow Speed CW Traffic
Daily	9:30 PM	3.792.5	Country Cousins Net
Mon.-Sat.	12:00 PM	28.380	10/10 International Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	3.994	Tech Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.865-	ARES Net (Walworth and ARRL news)
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.445	Emergency Net
Mon.	8:45 PM	146.670-	ARRL voice news (ARES)
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 m.SSB NET
Mon.	9:00 PM	146.670-	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.160	6 Mtr. 2nd Shifters' SSB Net
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.250	Badger Contesters (SSB)

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY
Tue.	8:00 PM	7.035	A.F.A.R. (CW)
Tue.	8:30 PM	223.500	X-Country Simplex Group (FM)
Tue.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 m. SSB Net.
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 Internat. (Milw. Ch.) (SSB)
Wed.	8:00 PM	145.130	ARRL voice news
Wed.	8:00 PM	147.270+	Weather & Swap net.
hu.	9:00 PM	50.160	6 mtr. SSB Net.
Thu.	9:00 PM	146.910-	Computer Net
Fri.	8:30 PM	28.490	MRAC W9RH 10 m. Net (SSB)
Fri.	9:00 PM	145.390-	W9RH 2 m. FM Net after 10mtr.
Sat	9:00 PM	146.910-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Sun.	8:30 AM	3.985	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Sun.	9:00 AM	145.565	X-Country Simplex Group (FM)
Sun.	10:00 AM	443.800+	FM-38 link to 146.88 Bar. SWAP Net
Sun.	8:00 PM	28.365	10/10 Int. (MKE Ch.) (SSB)
Sun.	8:00 PM	146.910-	Information Net
Sun.	9:00 PM	146.910-	Swap Net

2 meter repeaters are offset by 600KHz -- 70 centimeter repeaters are offset by 5 MHz
SSB frequencies below 20 meters are LSB and for 20 mtrs and above are USB

W9JK

Jack Krause - W9JK has been laid up since August. First he encountered knee problems, then a broken hip.

He would appreciate a visit or two or maybe a phone call. He is at St. Camillus Home Health Care @ 10101 W. Wisconsin Ave. - Suite 203 and expects to be there for a couple more months. His phone number is (414) 259-6577.

He has two meter capabilities and does monitor our repeater from time to time. He is working on getting an antenna up for 20 & 40 meters.

VEC News

MRAC VEC held VE testing on Jan 3, 2004 in conjunction with the WARAC Swapfest in Waukesha. There were 14 examinees, and 12 either upgraded or qualified for their initial license. 22 exam elements were given. Our grateful thanks goes to the following VEs who worked under some difficult conditions:

Mark Bye KB9LDX
Tom Czaja KG9EE
Ken Eggert W9MOT
Bob Hensiak AB9EZ
John Kraak KF9XL
Ken Lyman K9OQ
Hal Newton KB9OZN
Tom Schulte AB9EK
Sherm Swanson KB9Q

**Our next exam session will be
Sat Jan 31, 2004 at AES.**

73,

John (KF9XL)

John KF9XL

VEC TESTING

- **Sat. - Jan. 31, 2004
9:30 AM @ AES**
- **Sat. - Feb. 28, 2004
9:30 @ AES**
- **Sat. - Apr. 3, 2004
9:00 AM @ AES
(SuperFest)**
- **Sat. - Apr. 24, 2004
9:30 AM @ AES**
- **Sat. - May 29, 2004
9:30 AM @ AES**

**AES = Amateur
Electronic Supply**

**5710 W. Good Hope Rd.
Milwaukee, WI**

MEMBERSHIP MEETING Nov. 20, '03

Officers and Directors in attendance.

Pres. Kevin Reeme KC9BZU
V.P. Brian White..... K9LCQ
Treas. Joe Schwarz..... N9UX
Dir. Pancho Doneis... KA9OFA
Dir. Tom Fuszard KF9PU
Dir. Jerry Wahlen..... WA9CGE
Dir. Mark Tellier..... AB9CD
Dir. Dick Wood W9JBE

Secretary Tom Schulte, AB9EK was unable to attend the club meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Kevin, KC9BZU at 7:15pm. Kevin introduced himself and explained the realignment of the Board of Directors. Kevin, KC9BZU moved from Vice-President to President after the resignation of Patrick, W9UQ. Brian, K9LCQ moved from Director to Vice-President. Joe, N9UX was appointed and accepted the position of Treasurer. Mark, AB9CD, who resigned as Treasurer will continue to help with the responsibilities. Mark will transfer the duties to Joe after the (membership) renewal period is completed in January 2004. Mark will also fill the Director position vacated by Brian's appointment to Vice-president.

There was no reading of October minutes since no one remembered to bring them.

Mark read the Treasurer's report. Les, AB9EY made a motion to approve the report as read. Pancho, KA9OFA seconded the motion.

Mark gave a repeater status report. The repeater is working without any problems. The sale of the old repeater was explained. According to Mark, the board decided at the time the repeater was put up for sale that all proceeds would be applied to the repeater fund. Vern,

W9RYA asked if this was like Peter robbing Paul and wasn't the old repeater bought from the general fund? This does NOT change the funds in the general fund as the repeater fund is part of the general fund. There was a board decision at the time the repeater was put up for sale, the proceeds would be placed in the category, repeater fund after the sale was completed.

Tom, KF9PU updated the membership on the VEC status. John, KF9XL would like some help at the testing session the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If anyone can help, to get in touch with John before the testing session. One of our VE's Tom, KG9EE underwent back surgery and is doing well. The ULS updates at the FCC Website are behind schedule. There were questions for Tom.

Vern, W9RYA updated the membership on the Christmas party. Vern asked that anyone interested in attending please contact him soon so that he may provide a head count to the Machine Shed. Phone No. (414) 762-3235 or Email ryatex@aol.com

Floyd, AB9EX asked about theory classes. Mark, AB9CD explained that forms for the theory classes have been received but in insufficient quantities to hold a class. There were several more questions from the floor regarding classes. Mark explained that we will hold class as soon we get 6-8 requests for a particular class. More than 10 people, and the class can become more interesting. Less than 4 the time is not well spent. The optimum class size is 8 students with class sizes of 6-10 being acceptable.

Mark, AB9CD also made announcement of several email addresses that are bouncing Chatter mailings. If the address is yours or you know who it belongs to please contact him at ab9cd@arrl.net or contact the club at w9rh@arrl.net.

ka9dlk@aol.com
wd9jkz@aol.com
theo@execpc.com
n9qa@arrl.net
qdc@qualitydesign.cc

There was no new business.

Brian, K9LCQ made a motion that the meeting be adjourned at 7:32pm and seconded by Pancho, KA9OFA

The program for the evening was the Milwaukee - USS Des Moines Historic Naval Ship Project

Respectfully submitted,

Brian K9LCQ

Brian, K9LCQ



WB9GYT GETS BACK ON THE AIR

A few years ago, the Tailtwister belonging to Rick Kissell, WB9GYT stopped functioning. A few weeks ago, Tom Barrett, KB9QMV replaced the Tailtwister with an Italian-made Prosisel PST-61B (sold in this country by Array Solutions). Rick uses a Sommer Antennas XP-508 log periodic optimized for the 40 - 6m ham bands on a Rohn HDBX-48 tower.

Armed with an IC-756 PRO and G4ZPY paddle (both new), here's what WB9GYT has worked since getting back on the air:

DATE	MHz	GMT	CALL	SENT	RCVD	QTH
12/28/03	24.942	..1843	..CU2CE	.....57/58	...58	St. Michael Island, Azore
12/28	.....18.077	..2135	..G4IUF/HC8	.....579	.....5NN	Galapagos Islands
12/29	.....28.019	..1713	..LU3XH	.....559	.....559	Extreme southern Patagonia
12/30	.....28.009	..1457	..HI7/OE1DIA	..599	.....5NN	Dominican Republic
12/30	.....18.072	..2134	..R1ANF	.....569	.....449	Bellingshausen, Antarctica
12/31	.....50.096	..0212	..WB5DNT	.....599+	.....599+	Central Texas
1/1/04	.....24.902	..1641	..EI5JF	.....559	.....559	County Tipperary, Ireland
1/1	.....24.896	..1658	..GI0KOW	.....599	.....599	County Armagh, Northern Ireland
1/10	.....18.069	..2018	..3B9FR	.....449	.....559	Rodriguez Island (Indian Ocean)
1/10	.....18.088	..2100	..S9SS	.....579	.....569	Sao Tome Island (equatorial Africa)
1/10	.....24.893	..2155	..PP8ZAC	.....339	.....559	Tabatinga, Brazilian Amazon
1/13	.....18.078	..1650	..FO/OH6KN	.....549	.....5NN	Tubuai Island (French Polynesia)
1/13	.....24.895	..1717	..PR7FB	.....449	.....579	Campina Grande, Paraiba (n.e. Brazil)
1/17	.....24.945	..2153	..VK9NS	.....55	.....55	Norfolk Island (between Australia & New Zealand)

Rick, WB9GYT would like to extend his thanks to NK9G (for transporting the Prosisel from Dayton) and W9UVV (for wiring the Prosisel) and to KB9QMV (for his winter tower work).

Credits

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

KC9BZU	AB9EK	KB9Q
AB9CD	K9LCQ	KF9XL
KC9CI	WB9GYT	

Thanks also to Rita Doneis and Tom Fuszard for help in the proof-reading dept. Our thanks goes to Dick Wood for making sure that the 'Chatter gets printed, stamped and mailed and to Mark Tellier who Emails it.

Thanks also goes to Howard Parks who administers our website.

Thanks also to Ted Stiller for obtaining and serving refreshments at our meetings.

Thanks also goes to Tom Sherlowsky and Jacquie Horwitz for taking care of the raffle at the meetings.

Thanks Mark Tellier, Tom Czaja, John Kraak and Tom Fuszard who are our VEC's

Special thanks to Matt Karshna for help with resolving several challenges dealing with the production of the 'Chatter.

**Thank
YOU!**

CLUB NETS

Join us for our Friday night W9RH 10 meter net at:

8:30 PM at 28.490 MHz SSB. Then join us afterwards on our repeater for the Friday evening 2 mtr. net. It's at 9:00 PM at 145.390 MHz minus offset with a PL of 127.3 Hz.

ASK THE TECH

This month is our first try at this new column. This month's question didn't arrive by email or snail mail, but from a number of conversations heard on our repeater.

The question has been posed as, "My Outlook Express is removing all attached files from incoming messages. Why is this happening?"

None of the (awake) expert staff has Outlook Express, but a visit to the Microsoft support web site resulted in finding Knowledge Base article Q291387. You can read the full text of the article by going to <http://support.microsoft.com> and searching on the above article number.

There are two possible solutions to this problem. If you already have virus protection software installed on your PC, you may simply disable the feature (which is enabled by default) in Outlook Express that stops all (or almost all) file attachments on emails. Go to the Tools menu in Outlook Express and select Options. Click on the Security tab. In the Virus Protection area uncheck the box next to "Do not allow attachments to be saved or opened that could be potentially be a virus". Then click OK. If you do not have virus protection on your machine, this is not recommended. If your ISP (Internet Service Provider) does your virus scanning for you, understand how comprehensive the service is before depending on that service.

There is a second option, but it doesn't involve changing anything in Outlook Express. It involves changing the unsafe file list for IE6 (Internet Explorer 6). This is accomplished by going to the Control Panel. Per the Knowledge Base article:

1. Click Start, point to Settings (or click Control Panel), and then click Control Panel (or switch to Classic View or View All Control Panel Options).

2. Double-click Folder Options.

3. On the File Types tab, click to select the file type that you want to block or allow, and then click Advanced. If the file type you want to add is not listed, perform the following steps:

1. Click New.

2. In the Create New Extension dialog box, type the file extension you want to add to the unsafe file list.

3. Click OK, and then click Advanced.

4. Click to place a check mark (block) or remove the check mark (allow) from the Confirm open after download check box.

NOTE: You cannot remove the check from Confirm open after download to allow some file types. For example, .exe files are in the default unsafe file list in Internet Explorer and cannot be allowed.

Since the focus of these questions

has concerned reading the Chatter when attached to an email, look for the setting that affects .PDF files. The Adobe Acrobat Reader is a relatively safe program and allowing .PDF files into your computer should pose little risk. Having said that, even our worst expert ("Computers for Idiots" was beyond his comprehension) still recommends having some kind of virus protection software. There is just too much "stuff" out there to risk the contents of your PC. If you have any questions, send our experts your question in care of the MRAC email address. Put ASK THE TECH in the subject line and we'll wake-up one of the techs to work on it.

We'd like this column to be a regular feature in the Chatter. To make this happen, we need your questions. Anything is fair game (we already have some good stuff for the April issue) and can range from "How To..." to "Why is it?". Send us email at w9rh@arrl.net, snail mail to the club P.O box or hand write a question and give it to any board member at the next meeting.

Thanks for reading! Expert #12934.

It's a Secret

SHHHH!!

Keep it a secret. We have one of the best repeaters around and if we keep it a secret then it won't be used and will live up to it's reputation of being the

"quiet one".

Don't let anyone know our repeater is at:

145.39 - offset with a PL of 127.3 HZ

EVENTS

* = VE Testing

Mid-Winter HamFest
SUN. - JAN. 25, 2004
Pheasant Run MegaCenter
St Charles, IL
T/I on 145.390(-) rpt.

January MRAC General meeting
Thu. - Jan 29, 2004
Redemption Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, WI

MRAC FM Simplex Contest
FEB 8, 2004
SEE FRONT PAGE

Jefferson HamFest 2004 *
SUN. - MAR. 21, 2004
Jefferson Co. Fairgrounds
Jefferson, WI
T/I on 145.49 rpt.

February MRAC General meeting
Thu. - Feb 26, 2004
Redemption Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, WI

March MRAC General meeting
Thu. - Mar 25, 2004
Redemption Lutheran Church
Milwaukee, WI

SUPERFEST 2004 *
APRIL 2ND & 3RD
AES
Milwaukee, WI

2004 Madison HamFest &
Computer Show
SUN. - APR. 18, 2004
Mandt Community Ctr.
Stoughton, WI
T/I on 147.15MHz rpt.

FOR SALE



AL-808 Desktop Kilowatt 3-500ZG Amplifier

160 to 15 meters including WARC and MARS (user modifiable for 10/12 meters).

Think of it - a full kilowatt PEP output using a genuine CLASSIC® 3-500ZG tube (nearly 70% efficiency), dual Cross-Needle meters, QSK compatibility.

For more information contact John Merkl - KB9PSE phone no. (414) 259-9091 or Email: jmer@execpc.com

REMINDER

Check in to our nets on Friday evenings.

The **Ten Meter SSB** net is at **8:30 PM @ 28.490 Mhz.**

Our **Two Meter FM** net follows at **9:00 PM** on our repeater @ **145.390 MHz** with a **- offset** and a **PL of 127.3 Hz**

Join us for Saturday morning breakfast at Maxim's Restaurant, 18025 W. Capitol Dr. We usually meet at **8:00 AM**, and **order** around **8:15 AM**. Good food and Fellowship.

PROGRAMS

Our program for this (January) meeting will be presented by Jeff, K9VS Jeff will discuss Antenna Windloading, (quite apropos for this season) .

Our April presentation is set. Don Michalski, W9IXG (our local ARRL Section manager), will present a program on wire antennas to head us into the antenna building season.

**Dues 're Due.
Let's Dues it!!!**

Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 070695
Milwaukee, WI 53207-0695

Membership Renewal - 2004

Date _____

Name _____ Callsign _____

Spouse or Family member name _____ Callsign _____

1st Address _____

2nd Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone Contact Number _____ Home Cell Office Other _____

Do you wish to receive the club newsletter via email? ☐ Yes ☐ No

E-mail address _____

Member License Class

☐ None ☐ Novice ☐ Technician ☐ Technician Plus ☐ General ☐ Advanced ☐ Extra

Spouse or Family Member License Class

☐ None ☐ Novice ☐ Technician ☐ Technician Plus ☐ General ☐ Advanced ☐ Extra

Membership Type Renewing (check only one)

☐ Associate \$17.00 ☐ Family \$17.00 ☐ Regular \$17.00
☐ Life w/Chatter \$10.00 (minimum to cover the Chatter costs)

Now that the repeater has been relocated, do you use the repeater? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you a member of the ARRL? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Comments: _____

Enclose a check for the appropriate amount and mail it to the address above.

Membership year runs from January 1 through December 31

Received from _____ Date _____

The Sum of _____ Dollars Cash/Check # _____

For Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club dues 2004

Signed

The **next Meeting of M.R.A.C.**
will be **Thursday - January 29, 2004**
at **7:00 PM** at:

Redemption Lutheran Church

Fellowship Hall

4057 N. Mayfair Rd.

(Use the South entrance)

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Please don't call the church.

The program for the
January 29th MRAC
meeting

will be on

Antenna Wind
Loading

and will be presented by

Jeff, K9VS.